

PROVIDING ALTERNATE ACCESS FOR PHYSICALLY IMPAIRED  
USERS TO ITEMS NORMALLY DISPLAYED IN DROP DOWN MENUS  
ON USER-INTERACTIVE DISPLAY INTERFACES

Abstract

5        Alternate access for physically impaired users to  
items normally displayed in drop down menus is provided  
by furnishing to users conventional means for displaying  
a sequential set of drop down menus, each having a  
plurality of selectable items together with conventional  
10    selection means scrolled along each of said menus.  
However, if the user feels unable to use or frustrated in  
using such scrolling menu techniques, he has the option  
to choose to display, as an alternative to this set of  
sequential menus, a hierarchical arrangement of  
15    selectable items corresponding to items in said set of  
menus. In the case where the menus in the sequential set  
of drop down menus sequentially vary from each other in  
scope, then the alternative hierarchical arrangement of  
selectable items may be a tree of items with sequential  
20    levels of varying scope respectively corresponding to the  
varying scope of said set of menus. The selectable items  
in the tree may be icons and particularly icons varied in  
size so as to be optimized to diminish the effects of the  
individual user's impairment. For the same effect, the  
25    icons in the tree may also be varied in distance from  
each other so as to be optimized to diminish the effects  
of the individual user's impairment.

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